








Instructional Technology Newsline

Volume 3 Number 12
October, 2002

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

Instructional Technology Staff
(573) 751-8247

<http://www.dese.state.mo.us/divimprove/instrtech/newsletters>

-  [Deborah S. Sutton](#), Director
-  [Claranne Vogel](#), Supervisor
-  [Lisa Walters](#), Library Media and Technology Consultant
-  [Rosalyn Wieberg](#), Supervisor
-  [Shirley Brumley](#), Administrative Assistant

In This Issue . . .

-  Instructional Technology Update [Correction on Title IID revenue code](#)
-  Technology Planning Resources—Research and Reports
-  Technology Plan Review COUNTDOWN to April 2003...6 months
-  October—Computer Learning Month
-  Opening Doors Through Technology: 2002 Missouri Educational Technology Conference
-  Show-Me TechKnowledge 2003
-  2002 eRate Training Sessions Scheduled
-  Best Practices Nomination
-  Fall 2002 Distance Learning Seminars
-  File Sharing Applications Affect network Performance
-  METPA Update
-  New Links to Learning Schedules Exciting Workshops for 2002-2003 School Year
-  Rural School and Community Trust Seeking National Youth Council Applicants
-  CoSN Advancing K-12 Technology Leadership
-  Opportunities for Educators Available From NASA Educator Resource Center
-  Missouri Schools and Programs in the News
-  Learning With Technology: Community R-6 and Savannah R-III
-  Copyright Question of the Month
-  Mark Your Calendar



Upcoming 2002 Conferences

From the Mailbag

Internet Sites of Interest



Instructional Technology Update

October has always been one of my favorite months. By this time in a school year, I've had time to observe and analyze what is and is not working and make necessary adjustments. Also in October is the Missouri Educational Technology Conference, at which I learn new ideas. I come back energized. I begin the switch from dealing with "what is" to "what can be".

In many ways, I view the No Child Left Behind Act in the same vein. The NCLB encourages us all to take an "October SWOT analysis" where we look at strengths, weaknesses, threats, and opportunities – at the state, district, school, classroom, and program levels. We can all agree that every child can and should succeed in school. However, we also know that some of the adjustments that will need to be made will require a great deal of effort and costs. The bar is set high intentionally. We must work together to reach it.

The use of education technologies will play important roles in helping meet the NCLB goals, in improving system-wide administration, data management, and communication as well as the teaching and learning processes. I'm energized when I think of how far along we are, already. Let us all be thinking about "what can be". -Deb

State Approval of District Technology Plans

Long-range planning is vital to meeting the NCLB goals. According to Instructional Technology records, about 400 districts will need to update their technology plans for state approval this spring. As detailed in several recent issues of Newsline, the Department has been amassing resources to help schools in this venture. A planning web site was developed last year. The scoring guide was expanded this year; it details the components needed to reach NCLB standards. In the past several months, a cadre of educators from across the state has gathered to serve as regional experts-mentors. A timeline of technical assistance activities has been developed.

Planned activities include a pre-conference session at the fall conference on writing a school technology plan, a series of regional workshops to be presented around the state in mid-November, and future Newsline articles. Information about the regional workshops, and how to contact a nearby expert-mentor, will be distributed at the conference, mailed to districts in mid-October, and posted in Newsline.

FY03 Technology Grants

As of September 16, all grants administered by the Instructional Technology section have been approved.

- TAG applications approved in July received an initial payment in August. Grants approved in August received first payments in September, and those approved in September will receive payment in October payment.
 - The TAG revenue code is 5364.
 - The estimated reimbursement rate for the TAG program remains 75%.

- Title IID eMINTS and Interactive Distance Learning grants were approved in July.
 - The correct revenue code for Title IID / eMINTS is 5466 and the CFDA is 83.318X. [The August issue of Newsline posted an incorrect code number.]

Revised TAG payment schedule: Per OA's instructions, the new schedule includes a 40% payment at time of approval (first payment), 20% in October, 20% in January, and the balance in June. Because of the 75% reimbursement rate, TAG recipients will not receive a January payment. After the October payment, the only remaining payment will be issued upon receipt and approval of the final expenditure report (FER).

Because of a payment error, the August TAG payment represented 40% of the total project amount (district match included) rather than 40% of the approved state amount. If your district received an August payment, your October payment will be adjusted [down] accordingly. Districts with grants approved after the August payment will find that their September payment had to be slightly adjusted as well -- we could only draw from the moneys made available. The October payment cycle should bring the total rate of reimbursement to 60%. It should bring all districts in alignment with the intended payment cycle, except for a dozen districts that will be contacted personally by Instructional Technology staff.

USF e-rate Program

Year 2002

Wave 12 was issued on September 19, 2002. With this wave, the Schools and Libraries Division (SLD) committed over \$22 million in over 191 letters. Funding continues to support PRIORITY ONE (telecommunications and Internet access) services ONLY. Funding for internal connections will be delayed until SLD is able to determine the funding available for Internal Connections. Schools and libraries, eligible for discounts below 80%, are being advised that their requests must be denied. There is uncertainty whether funds will be sufficient to fully fund all approved internal requests with discount percentages of 90%.

Wave 13 to begin funding approved 90% Internal Connections requests. The Schools and Libraries Committee approved fully funding FY 2002 approved Internal connections funding requests in the 90% discount band. The SLD will issue Funding Commitment Decisions Letters (FCDLs) for Wave 13 on Tuesday, October 8, 2002. Applicants with Internal Connections funding requests at 90% who were issued "As Yet Unfunded" designations on previous FCDLs should be issued second FCDLs with decisions on these requests.

Year 2003

The SLD recently announced the Year 2003 (July 1, 2003 - June 30, 2004) filing window. The Form 471 window for Funding Year 2003 will open at noon EST on Monday, November 4, 2002 and will close on Thursday, January 16, 2003 at 11:59 p.m. EST. A revised Form 471 will be available before the opening of the window. Form 471 may be filed online as soon as the window opens on Monday, November 4. Please do not file paper Forms 471 before November 4. Applicants who submit paper Forms 471 that are received before the opening of the window will have their forms returned, and those applicants will have to submit a new Form 471 on or after November 4.

The Funding Year 2003 Form 470 is available now for filing online or on paper. Remember that Form 470 must be filed in time to complete the required 28-day posting period before executing any contracts for contracted services, before selecting their service provider for tariffed or month-to-month services, and before signing and submitting Form 471.

For more information on these matters, visit

<http://www.sl.universalservice.org/funding/y5/national.asp>.



Technology Planning Resources -- Research and Reports

Technology Briefs for NCLB Planners

<http://www.neirtec.org>

The Northeast and Islands Regional Technology in Education Consortium (NEIRTEC) has created a series of technology briefs for educators expected to develop plans that effectively employ technology to enhance learning and increase student achievement. These briefs, obtainable for free from the NEIRTEC web site, include topics such as strategies for improving academic achievement and teacher effectiveness, steps to increase accessibility, professional development, integration of technology with curricula and instruction, innovative delivery strategies, and more.

Getting the Most from Technology in Schools

<http://www.wested.org/cs/wew/view/rs/665>

Computer technology can be effective helping achieve instructional goals; yet, many schools invest time and money in acquiring technology without clarifying their goals for how best to use this important tool. This knowledge brief, developed by WestEd's RTEC, is for educators and policymakers who want to know how to make the most of their investments in education technology. The brief draws on recent reviews and research on technology use in schools and addresses the question. "Under what conditions does this technology have the most benefits for students?" Based on the review, the brief summarizes lessons for developing effective technology plans.

School Technology Continues to Grow

<http://www.schooldata.com/publications3.html>

"Technology in Education 2002" is the latest report from Market Data Retrieval's ongoing monitoring of school technology use. According to the report 94% of schools report Internet access, 90% use LANs, 76% with high-speed access, and 67% with WANs. Laptops are in 40% of schools, 30% have DVD drives, 15% have wireless networks, and 7% provide handheld computers to teachers.

Searching for a Superhero: Can Principals Do it All?

<http://www.ewa.org>

The principal is key to any kind of change, but what makes a good leader? The truly effective principal is a team builder who encourages others to take responsibility for what happens in school. According to this special report from the Education Writers Association, some traits of a good leader include: delegates leadership, emphasizes instruction putting the children first, encourages continuous staff development, builds coalitions with staff, parents and the community, and evaluated data to assess strengths and weaknesses in the instructional program and make improvements. The report's findings affirm "good school leaders don't always have to be born. They can be made."



Technology Plan Review COUNTDOWN to April 2003...6 months

Only 6 months until District Technology Plans are due for review. Districts have long been required to have technology plans for participation in the TAG grant and e-rate programs. NCLB poses new requirements for local plans, which must be in place by June 30, 2003.

- ❖ Only those Missouri district plans evaluated since January 2003 meet the new standards.
- ❖ The next review of district technology plans is scheduled for April 2003. According to our records over 400 districts will need technology plans approved for e-rate; over 90% will need plans approved for Title IID.
- ❖ Visit <http://www.dese.state.mo.us/divimprove/instrtech> to review the new state plan, use the District Technology Planning resources, follow the new scoring guide, make revisions, and submit the revised plan for state approval. Complete a District Technology Plan Review/Approval form, attach it to the plan, and mail to Instructional Technology by March 31, 2003.

Please contact the Instructional Technology office at 573-751-8247 if you have any questions regarding these matters.

October—Computer Learning Month

<http://www.computerlearning.org/CLM.htm>

Computer Learning Month is celebrated each October and is a time for focusing attention on the important role computers, software and other technologies play in our lives, particularly in our children's learning and their future. Computer Learning Month is a time to try new ways of using technology, to learn new technology products, and to share knowledge with others in your local community about how to use technology.

While the Computer Learning Foundation offers numerous activities and suggestions for celebrating Computer Learning Month, it is parents, educators, schools, community groups and local businesses who determine what their community needs and organize their local celebration. Check out their website for contests and activities that can be easily integrated into regular classroom teaching.

Opening Doors Through Technology: 2002 Missouri Educational Technology Conference October 6-8, Tan-Tar-A

--Submitted by Eric Nicklas, Program Manager, K-12 /Technology Network Program, MOREnet

<http://www.more.net/services/conferences/fall2002/>

Conference Update:

- Limited number of session openings still available. Walk-ins welcome!
- Conference fees for Monday and Tuesday are \$225
- Conference programs will be available at registration (no advance mailings)
- Monday evening reception/hors d'oeuvres in vendor area offers opportunities for networking with colleagues and vendors
- Featured keynote speakers: Ian Jukes and Doug Johnson

Show-Me TechKnowledge 2003

Mark your calendars for February 26, 2003...the 2nd Annual Show-Me TechKnowledge Day at the State Capitol Rotunda. Show-Me TechKnowledge exhibits showcase exemplary K-12 student technology projects. It provides an opportunity for students to share their knowledge and talents and for legislators to see how technology is being effectively used in our schools. Join the Show-Me TechKnowledge Committee at the Technology Conference for an informational meeting on **Monday, October 7 at 5:15 pm in Room 60** at Tan-Tar-A.



2002 e-Rate Training Sessions Scheduled

<http://www.more.net/about/announcements/2002092501.html>

MOREnet is providing training sessions on the e-rate program. These sessions are intended as an introduction to the program. During this training, you will receive an overview of the program, including eligible services, the application process and the forms required by the program. Form 471 will be covered in depth to provide you the knowledge you need to complete your application this fall.

Training sessions will be conducted in Ste. Genevieve, New Madrid, Jefferson City, Kansas City and Milan. A training session in Southwest Missouri will be announced as soon as details are finalized.

Any staff is encouraged to attend. Staff from Missouri public schools and libraries do not have to be a part of the K-12 TNP or REAL programs to attend.

To register for the training session in your area, please contact Connie Smith at (800) 509-6673 or smith@more.net.

Two people per organization may attend. Additional staff can attend if room is available three days before the session. Please contact Connie Smith to check on availability.

For other questions regarding the training sessions or information on facilities or directions, please contact Jeanne Sullivan at (800) 509-6673 or jeanne@more.net.

For questions or comments concerning this announcement, please reply to: Jeanne Sullivan at jeanne@more.net



Best Practices Nomination

--Submitted by Mike Flynn, SuccessLink

www.successlink.org

SuccessLink has recognized Best Practices since the beginning of the organization in 1996. It has a library of practices that educators access to address concerns ranging from elementary reading to middle school writing, to high school pregnancy. SuccessLink is recommitting their efforts toward this program so more schools can access these proven resources as they look to making changes.

While SuccessLink has recognized a program using Dream Writers at the middle school level and a news program on cable television for an upper elementary, there have been few nominations from schools for their utilization of technology. Schools are encouraged to submit an application for the program in your district or building that is showing positive effects on student and/or teachers.

The criteria to be considered a Best Practice are:

- The practice must be at least two full years old.
- There must be clear evidence of success. This can include but isn't limited to test score improvement, and/or improved student attendance, or attitude, other clear indicators of student/teacher success.
- The practice can be replicated in other districts.

Please go to <http://successlink.org/best/nom.htm> to submit a nomination. You will find a form that can be completed on-line or printed at that location. To learn about past winners and how they

could help your school, go to www.successlink.org and click on the Best Practice button. Please contact Mike Flynn with any questions.

Fall 2002 Distance Learning Seminars

The Missouri Distance Learning Association is offering professional development seminars in the area of distance learning to Missouri educators. Seminars will be presented via I-TV and held regionally throughout the state. Seminars are targeted for K-12, higher education and other continuing education instructors and technologists who have varying exposure to and experiences in the area of distance learning.

What is the cost? (*Fees include resource materials for each participant*)

MoDLA Members: \$50 per workshop

Non-MoDLA Members: \$70 per workshop (includes a MoDLA Membership)

Or

\$50 per workshop (without a MoDLA Membership)

DL V-200 CREATING DYNAMIC VISUALS FOR ITV

This is an intermediate skill level PowerPoint workshop. Participants should have a basic knowledge of PowerPoint.

Participants will learn how to create effective visuals for the ITV classroom. Topics covered will include effective use of visuals, style guidelines, inserting video and other medial elements, how to use PowerPoint to create advanced organizers and interactive handouts, saving PowerPoint as an html file which can be posted to a web site.

DL V-300 ITV BEST PRACTICES

Participants will learn pedagogy, techniques to engage learners, standards for classroom etiquette and protocols, creating successful interaction and collaborative learning, best practices for site facilitators, material distribution and use of other technologies.

DL I-200 THE BASICS OF WEB DEVELOPMENT

Participants will learn how to create and post materials to the web. Topics covered will include web safe colors and appropriate fonts, designing your web site with a purpose, organizing content, navigational flow, and using images on the Internet. Participants will be able to post their web page to teachersweb.com.

DL I-300 PEDAGOGY FOR ONLINE LEARNING

Participants will learn how pedagogies and techniques for online learning, tips for organizing your course content, establishing guidelines and procedures for your online classroom, creating successful interaction and collaborative learning, promoting reflective learning, online assessments.

To register, email Lora Smith with MoDLA at losmith@cmsu1.cmsu.edu listing your name, address, and selections OR complete the following and fax to MoDLA at (660) 543-8333.

DL V-200 – Nov. 5

8:30 am to 11:30 am

- ☐ Dora
- ☐ Jefferson City TCRC
- ☐ Kirksville TCRC
- ☐ Nevada TeleCenter
- ☐ NWMSU @ Maryville

___ Southern TCRC @ Portageville

DL V-300 – Nov. 5

1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

- ___ Dora
- ___ Jefferson City TCRC
- ___ Kirksville TCRC
- ___ Nevada TeleCenter
- ___ NWMSU @ Maryville
- ___ Southern TCRC @ Portageville

DL I-200 – Nov. 7

8:30 am to 11:30 am

- ___ Mexico TCRC
- ___ Mineral Area TCRC @ Park Hills
- ___ NWMSU @ Maryville
- ___ Poplar Bluff TCRC
- ___ Tri-Lakes TCRC @ Reeds Spring

DL I-300 – Nov. 7

1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

- ___ Mexico TCRC
- ___ Mineral Area TCRC @ Park Hills
- ___ NWMSU @ Maryville
- ___ Poplar Bluff TCRC
- ___ Tri-Lakes TCRC @ Reeds Spring

Name:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

Phone, Email:

Employer:

Position:

Participants will receive directions to selected site locations. Fees are payable by purchase order or check to MoDLA, Humphreys 404, Central Missouri State University, Warrensburg, MO 64093.



File Sharing Applications Affect Network Performance

--Submitted by Eric Nicklas, Program Manager, K-12 Technology Network Program, MOREnet

Everyone who uses a networked computer has experienced slow performance and response times. Waiting for a web page to load, e-mail to download or viewing a choppy videoconference can be frustrating and affect the delivery of content and instruction to students. Your district's network slowdown could be caused by the use of a peer-to-peer (P2P) file sharing application.

Peer-to-peer file sharing applications such as Gnutella, KaZaa and Morpheus have the capability of turning any networked computer into a network file server. A single computer running a P2P file sharing application has the potential to completely use a district's T1 connection, which can result in a slow, unresponsive network that interferes with educational uses.

The use of P2P file sharing applications can be detected. MOREnet offers the Multi Router Traffic Grapher (MRTG) and Netflow tools to view bandwidth utilization. The MRTG provides a quick, easy-to-read graph of bandwidth utilization. A higher than usual utilization rate, especially for outgoing traffic, could be caused by a file sharing application on your network.

Netflow, a more advanced tool, provides reporting of bandwidth utilization based on application type. Netflow can help identify the percentage of bandwidth used by P2P file sharing applications. After P2P file sharing application use is identified, the district can act appropriately to discontinue the use of the application on its network.

To limit the impact peer-to-peer file sharing applications have on the performance of a district's network:

1. Monitor your network traffic regularly so you know common bandwidth utilization patterns and can identify unique patterns when they occur.
2. Do not permit, or limit the use of, file sharing or peer-to-peer applications on your network through Acceptable Use Policies.
3. Educate users on the negative impact these applications can have on the network. In many cases, the individual using a P2P file sharing application is unaware its negative impact on the district's network and users.

The use of peer-to-peer file sharing applications is challenging to block through network management means. Users should be aware of the potential impact they have on networks and limit their use.

For more information, visit <http://www.more.net/network/status.html> , send e-mail to techsupp@more.net or call (573) 884-7200.



METPA Update

--Submitted by John Waite, Vice-President, METPA

www.metpa.org

The Missouri Educational Technology Professionals Association is planning a variety of activities for this year. These activities are part of METPA's ongoing efforts to be an advocate for educational technology and the professionals responsible for the utilization of that technology in Missouri schools.

At the upcoming Missouri Educational Technology Conference METPA will present a workshop on "Technology Policies You Need Now and Why." The session will include discussion of acceptable use contracts, parental permission to publish student photos and work forms, rules for classroom web pages, guidelines for donation of equipment, and a number of other important issues. There will be samples of the various documents and forms used by Missouri school districts.

METPA will also be presenting the First Annual METPA Awards for Technology Professional Development and Classroom, School, and District Websites at the conference. Stop by the METPA table across from the registration desk to see who won the awards.

In November, METPA will be a co-sponsor of a series of workshops around the state on technology planning. These workshops will provide information on writing new technology plans that meet the new state guidelines.

Last year several METPA members were involved in organizing the First Show-Me TechKnowledge Day and the organization contributed monetary support for the event. METPA will be a sponsoring organization for the Second Show-Me TechKnowledge Day, February 26.

All Missouri school districts are searching for ways to adequately finance technology. METPA is sponsoring a forum on technology funding in February. Discussion will include information on how

school districts have been able to secure new funding sources and ways that districts have been able to acquire more technology with limited resources. Like previous METPA forums, it will be held at the Ike Skelton National Guard Training Center in Jefferson City.

A METPA summer camp for technology coordinators has been tentatively scheduled for June. This two-day event will include training aimed at both new and experienced technology coordinators. The summer camp will be held in Columbia with some sessions held at MOREnet.

New Links to New Learning Schedules Exciting Workshops for 2002-2003 School Year

--Submitted by Martha Bogart, Assistant Coordinator, Distance Learning, Cooperating School Districts

Where can you find out about exciting opportunities for your students that range from dissecting a sheep's brain to working with nationally recognized authors? How can your staff learn about the mental health issues they may see in their students? Want to know more about copyright and multi-media presentations? Discover these and other workshops from The Federal Reserve Program, the St. Louis Science Center, the Discovery Center and the NASA Johnson Space center at <http://csd.org/newlinks/newlinksprogramsfor20022003.htm>

Contact CSD's Ruth Litman-Block at rblock@csd.org or call (314) 692-1272 to learn more about New Links to New Learning or to schedule your next interactive activity.

For information about in-service training and a free booklet about videoconferencing, click on [In-service Training](#).

Rural School and Community Trust Seeking National Youth Council Applicants

<http://youth.ruraledu.org>

Launched in the spring of 2000, by the Rural School and Community Trust, the National Youth Council is again seeking qualified applicants. The Youth Council advises the Rural Trust on strategies for engaging young people as full partners in the work of improving schools and strengthening rural communities. The Rural Trust believes that the energy, talent, and creativity of youth are vital building blocks in creating sustainable communities. During its existence, the Youth Council has worked hard at making the realization of integrated youth in rural communities a more practiced reality.

WHAT does the Youth Council do?

The Youth Council engages others in addressing issues facing young people in rural communities through:

- * Advocating for the inclusion of youth voice in matters of importance to rural communities
- * Advising the Rural School and Community Trust on rural schools and communities
- * Connecting young leaders in rural America across the country via conferences, face- to-face meetings, virtual communications, and by the development of personal connections
- * Coordinating virtual communication structures
- * Sharing of youth perspectives with opinion leaders

WHO can apply to be a member of the Youth Council?

The Youth Council is seeking engaged youth (ages 14-20) who have made significant contributions toward the improvement of their rural place. At this time, the Youth Council is

looking for approximately 5-10 young people wishing to be advocates for the role of youth in rural communities.

The Youth Council is seeking the wisdom, insight, and involvement of young people from a variety of backgrounds and experiences. In addition to junior high and high school students, the Youth Council also encourages young people who have already graduated from high school, but continue to work on behalf of their rural communities, to apply.

EXPECTATIONS of individuals selected

Applicants need to be able to commit to a two-year term consisting of 2-3 hours of work (writing, conference calls, community outreach) each week. The applicant must be able to attend regional and state gatherings to gain perspective on the issues concerning rural schools and communities. In addition to 1-2 group meetings each year, Youth Council members may participate in other Rural Trust work and gatherings. Youth Council members will work on at least one general committee and maintain communication with regional adult partners, the Youth Council Coordinator, and other members of the Youth Council. It is required that Applicants stay engaged in the issues concerning rural America and strive to exemplify youth sustaining rural communities.

COST

There is no cost to either the student or the school--all costs will be covered by the Rural Trust.

Online applications for the Rural School and Community Trust National Youth Council can be found at: <http://youth.ruraledu.org>



CoSN Advancing K-12 Technology Leadership

--Submitted by Keith Krueger

Thank you for your interest in participating in the Total Cost of Ownership case studies that will be conducted by Gartner, under the sponsorship of the Consortium for School Networking, the U.S. Department of Education and the North-Central Regional Educational Laboratory.

The attached survey will be used to identify three to five school districts that will serve as case studies for the project. Our intent is to complete and publish case studies that reflect a variety of approaches to hardware and software, operations and administration in the distributed computing environment. The survey questions below represent a subset of the data that are to be collected and analyzed. Please keep in mind that there are no right or wrong answers.

Finding and reporting TCO data and meeting with Gartner staff will require a commitment of time and effort from districts that agree to serve as case studies. The amount of effort that will be required will vary, depending on how readily available the TCO data is in your district. Nevertheless, we believe the studies will provide the participating districts with valuable insights into the TCO process and their distributed computing environment.

Again, thank you for your interest. If you wish to be considered, please complete the following questions and fax the survey to (202) 462-9043 by **Tuesday, October 1, 2002**.

TCO Case Study: School District Profile

| | |
|------------------|-----------|
| District Name: | State: |
| Superintendent: | Signature |
| Project Contact: | Signature |

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| Contact Phone Number | Contact E-mail: |
|----------------------|-----------------|

| | | |
|----|---|--|
| 1 | Please describe whether your setting is primarily urban, suburban or rural. | |
| 2 | How many students does your school district serve? | |
| 3 | How many school campuses are in your district? | |
| 4 | What percentage of your schools have a LAN extended to all classrooms? | |
| 5 | Does your district have a Wide Area Network? | |
| 6 | How campuses are connected to your WAN? | |
| 7 | How many computers are connected to your district's network? | |
| 8 | What operating systems are currently being supported in your district? | |
| 9 | Has your school district put in place policies to standardized desktop software? | |
| 10 | Please indicate to what degree your district uses any of the following: | |
| | a) Centralized network management tools (Yes or No) | |
| | b) Help Desk (Yes or No) | |
| | c) Outsourced tech support (If Yes, what %) | |
| | d) Leased computers and/or related equipment (If Yes, what %) | |
| | e) "Thin-Client" solutions (hardware or software) (If Yes, what %) | |
| | f) Wireless solution networks (If Yes, what %) | |
| | g) Application Service Providers (If Yes, what %) | |
| 11 | If your district is selected for a TCO case study, will you be able to make the necessary commitment of time on short notice this fall? | |



Opportunities for Educators Available From NASA Educator Resource Center

--Submitted by Jackie Wortmann, NASA Educator Resource Center, Southeast Missouri University

<http://www2.semo.edu/nasaerc/home.htm>

Here is an opportunity for you and your class to work directly with NASA. We are looking for two teachers in Missouri to field test NASA curriculum in their classrooms. The field testing will take place in the Spring of 2003. Teachers will be chosen in October and notified sometime in November that they will field test this curriculum. If you are interested, please send a letter (yes, regular snail mail!) to the address following this paragraph, stating why you would like to field test NASA curriculum involving the Centennial of Flight (The Wright Brothers). Your letter should include how this topic would relate to what you teach, what grade you teach, and the name and

city of your school. Also include your e-mail address. You should also state if you are willing to travel to Marshall Space Flight Center with one or two of your students (expenses paid!) in the late spring. Also, state if you have field tested curriculum for NASA. Letters should be received in Cape Girardeau by 9/23/02. Thank you to all those that apply!

]

KSAM – Science and Math the Right Way!

These awesome, hands-on courses are available this year in the Southeast Missouri area. They are inquiry based math and science courses that a school can arrange after school to show teachers how to integrate these hands-on activities into their curriculum and classes. Each course runs for six weeks, one night a week. One hour of non-degree graduate credit is included for each teacher. There is a maximum of 25 teachers per course, but no minimum. The charge is \$1900.00 to the schools plus the cost of the books, \$21.95 each. The courses we offer at Southeast Missouri State University are:

- Earth Science
- Physical Science
- Biology
- Mathematics

To arrange a course or for more information, please contact: Carrie Litzelfelner 1-573-651-2516

Below is our workshop schedule for fall. Other events will be announced later so be sure and check our calendar on our website: <http://www2.semo.edu/nasaerc/home.htm>
NOTE: New items are listed following the workshops list.

October 1, 2002 – 4:00 – 7:00 pm, Godwin Center, Johnson Building, Southeast Missouri State University, Cape Girardeau, MO.

DEEP SEA TO DEEP SPACE WORKSHOP: Beginning at Deep Sea Vents and traveling to far away galaxies, this workshop includes a video, hands-on-activities, posters, and curriculum. Using this information in your classroom will give students a look at life from bacteria living at the edge of deep sea vents to distant planets that might contain life. Students learn what are the needs of living things on Earth and to think about the needs of different life forms.

October 22, 2002 – 4:00 to 6:30 pm, Godwin Center, Johnson Building, Southeast Missouri State University, Cape Girardeau, MO.

CELEBRATING THE WRIGHT BROTHERS: The History of Flight – From birds to kites to rockets, the history of flight will be reviewed. You will build a hot-air balloon and can take it with you along with NASA curriculum.

October 29, 2002 – 4:00 – 6:30 pm, Godwin Center, Johnson Building, Southeast Missouri State University, Cape Girardeau, MO.

SPACE SHUTTLE GLOVE BOX: This is a make-it and take-it workshop where participants will make a cardboard replica of the experiment box used on the space shuttle and the International Space Station. Experiments and ideas for the use of the glove box will be demonstrated.

November 5, 2002 – 4:00 pm to 6:30 pm, Godwin Center, Johnson Building, Southeast Missouri State University, Cape Girardeau, MO.

HOW HIGH IS IT?: How far is it to the Moon? When the Space shuttle is flying, how high up does it go? Where does our atmosphere begin and end? How many man-made things are orbiting our Earth?? How big is our Solar System? This workshop uses NASA curriculum entitled "How High Is It?" You will discover the answer to all of these questions, plus more. A 60 inch foldable model of the Earth will be made during this workshop and you can take it with you!

December 3, 2002 – 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm, Godwin Center, Johnson Building, Southeast Missouri State University, Cape Girardeau, MO.

SUN-EARTH CONNECTION: The inter-relationship of Earth to the Sun is taught using NASA curriculum which includes the solar wind, magnetosphere, and properties of light. All levels will be included, however, this is directed toward junior high and high school.

Please remember: We also design workshops to meet your needs using NASA curriculum which will reach most topics from science, math, technology, geography and social studies.

To register for any workshop, call 573-986-6778 or e-mail your name, school and grade you teach to jwortmann@semo.edu. Or call 1-877-321-NASA or email nasaerc@semo.edu.

NEW FROM NASA!!

LITHOGRAPHS:

- INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION EXPEDITION 5 CREW - Image of crew members with biographical and mission information on reverse.
- CREW OF SPACE SHUTTLE MISSION STS-111 - Image of crew members and ISS with biographical and mission information on reverse.
- CREW OF SPACE SHUTTLE MISSION STS-107 – Image of crew members with biographical information and information about the mission patch on reverse.
- The Apollo Program – Images from 1969 and 1972 Moon missions with facts about the Apollo Program and images on the reverse.

VIDEOS:

- NASA “Why?” Files – The Case of the Phenomenal Weather – Gr. 3-5 – 60 minutes – The tree house detectives plan a trip to the Caribbean and encounter problems trying to predict the weather. Hurricanes, tornadoes, weather fronts, global wind patterns, and climates will be taught on this video.
- Data Analysis and Measurement: Having a Solar Blast! – Gr. 5-8 – 29 minutes – NASA engineers and researchers use data analysis and measurement to predict solar storms, anticipate how they will affect the Earth, and improve our understanding of the Sun-Earth system.
- More Than Your Eyes Can See – Gr. 5-8 – 7 minutes – You will learn about infrared light, measurement of temperature; how night vision cameras see the invisible; fire departments have the ability to see through smoke and dust; and how they are able to detect forest fires through clouds and smoke.
- Destination Tomorrow Series: Bringing the Future Into Focus – Gr. 9 – Adult – 30 minutes – Communicates knowledge resulting from NASA’s aeronautics and space technology programs. Highlights new Mars exploration missions to help explain unanswered questions about the red planet and more.
- NASA “Why?” Files – The Case of the Inhabitable Habitat – Gr. 3 -5 – 60 minutes – The tree house detectives accept the challenge of designing a habitat that can sustain life on Mars. They first decide to learn more about the planet Mars and the various habitats found here on Earth.

There is printed material that goes with the above videos.

- The Upper Atmosphere Research Satellite – Gr. 9 – 12 – 17 minutes – Explains the purpose and functions of this satellite which has been measuring Earth’s lower atmosphere layers since 1991
- Sea Winds: Catch the Wind, The Quik SCAT Story – Gr. 9 – 12 - 26 minutes - Tells of the 5-year mission of this satellite which measures global land, ice and ocean vector

winds. Provides near real-time readings to the U. S. National Centers for Environmental Prediction for weather prediction.

POSTERS:

- EXPLORING THE EXTREME – NASA Aerospace Technology – colorful poster of the F-15 Active fighter jet. Reverse has activity dealing with angle measurement of aircrafts for grades 5 – 8, illustrations of various aircraft and a section on NASA Education Web Sites.

WEBSITES: Awesome! Be sure to look!

- A book-sized site covering astronomy. High school level. Could serve as the framework of a one-year high-school course. Also suited for individual study and has a section directed at teachers.
- “From Stargazers to Starships” – <http://www-spof.gsfc.nasa.gov/stargaze/Sintro.htm>
- The Exploration of the Earth’s Magnetosphere” – <http://www-spof.gsfc.nasa.gov/Education/Intro.html>

GRANTS FOR MISSOURI TEACHERS:

- Mini-grant program through the Missouri Lewis and Clark Bicentennial Commission. Matching funds will not be required. Designed to assist teachers and students in rekindling the spirit of discovery, achievement and wonder fostered by the original exploration. \$500 grant must be used for a Lewis and Clark-related class project. The application is one page. Call 573-522-9019 or email lewisandclark@mail.dnr.state.mo.us to be added to the mini-grant application mailing list.

NASA ERC

222 North Pacific

Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

1-573-290-5394 ***** 1-877-321-NASA TOLL FREE

1-573-290-5395 FAX nasaerc@semovm.semo.edu

To subscribe: Send to nasaerc@list.semo.edu with subscribe in message. Do not type anything else in the message.

To unsubscribe: Send to nasaerc@list.semo.edu with unsubscribe in message. Do not type anything else in the message.



Missouri Schools and Programs in the News

Valley Park

Mrs. Diana Dell’s classroom website was recently featured as the Eduhound Spotlight Classroom of the week. Diana is the fifth grade eMINTS teacher from Valley Park Elementary in Valley Park, Missouri. Congratulations, Diana! Her website is <http://www.mrsdell.org>

eMINTS

Fourth and fifth grade eMINTS students from Richardson Elementary in Lee’s Summit, Parkade Elementary in Columbia, Hallsville Elementary in Hallsville and Fairview Elementary in Jennings applied their problem-solving skills to assist MODOT with Interstate 70 plans for improving the safety, condition and congestion issues that plague the aging facility. Articles about the project are found in the Summer 2002 issue of MoDOT’s *Pathways* magazine. Follow this link www.modot.state.mo.us/pubs/Pathways/Pathways/Summer2002/TableofContents.htm to read about the eMINTS kids researching ways to improve I-70.

St. Louis Cooperating School Districts

USA Today selected St. Louis Cooperating School Districts companion site, TeachersAndFamilies.com, as one of their Educators’ Top Picks for last week. Preschool teachers will find lots of resources they can use at <http://www.teachersandfamilies.com> Congratulations!



Learning With Technology

--Featuring Community R-VI and Savannah R-III

Community R-VI

As a result of training and activities of the Community R-VI TLCF grant, Multimedia Book Responses, we are seeing more teachers using PowerPoint in their classrooms. The TLCF grant has supported the installation of two eMINTS classrooms.

In support of the eMINTS activities we have installed identical software in the school labs. By doing this we feel that the skills developed by the students within the eMINTS rooms will be extended into other classrooms. PowerPoint was the first software to be installed throughout the school and we provided training for all teachers. Teachers developed book reports using the software as well as presentations for PTO open houses and for lesson support in most of their classes.

To further extend the eMINTS style of teaching we were able to send three of our teachers to the eMINTS sampler session provided by MoreNet. These three teachers, (one fifth, one sixth, and middle school language arts) have SmartBoards, teacher laptops, and ceiling mounted projectors in their classrooms.

The activities of the grant have made it possible for students, third grade – high school, to develop PowerPoint presentations as responses to books they read. Using the SmartBoards that have been added with funds from this grant, they are able to present them within their classes. We have seen an extended use of PowerPoint by our students. The ITV students have learned to interface it with the Polycon system for presentations that can be viewed by participating remote classes. All of our teachers have a computer projection device that allows them to project their computer onto a wall-mounted TV in their classroom.

This school year students are developing a daily PowerPoint announcement. This is then projected throughout the school and onto TVs mounted in school lobbies. This presentation is run through the evening hours so that patrons can see what the students are doing while they attend sports events and other meetings at the school.

As a result of the activities of this grant we are seeing more project-based learning activities being used by all of our teachers. We hope to continue to add SmartBoards, teacher laptops, and projectors to additional classrooms as funds become available. Along with these additions we will be supporting the teachers by providing on-going training in the development of student presentations and rubric tools for evaluation of student work. For more information contact Emma Jaccarino at emmaj@mail.community.k12.mo.us

Savannah R-III School District

Students in the Helena and John Glenn Elementary Schools were excited about the opportunity to do a science study guide based upon Internet web sites. The teachers in the fourth grade classrooms were also utilizing the web sites to guide an assessment for these students.

The second year of the TLCF grant has provided the teachers and students the opportunity to use desktop computers that meet the speeds required for Internet use. These machines also provided us with the opportunity to use science software that directly relates to our curriculum. We have been working on our communication arts curriculum and the addition of the Inspiration software has provided our students with an excellent prewriting tool.

Near the end of the 2001-2002 school year, all of the third and fourth grade teachers developed a multimedia lesson that utilized digital cameras and PowerPoint software. These presentations sparked new ideas and uses for the two schools for future classroom instruction.

The biggest asset of the grant is the training. We have been able to identify our strengths and abilities by using a needs assessment that we created. This gave us the knowledge of what our teachers could and couldn't do. Teachers received training in Microsoft Word and Microsoft PowerPoint. They also received training on how to use SmartBoards and digital cameras. The teachers really enjoyed the training on how to use the web as an instructional tool. For more information contact Troy Dunn at troyd@savannah.k12.mo.us

Copyright Question of the Month

Q. How long does copyright last?

A. Over the years, the copyright law has been amended and the number of years the work is protected has increased. Upon the expiration of the copyright, a work enters public domain and can be copied freely without permission. It is the responsibility of the user to determine the status of the work.

The history and length of copyright:

| | |
|-------------|--|
| 1790 | 14 years with 14-year renewal (Total 28 years) |
| 1831 | 28 years with 14-year renewal (Total 42 years) |
| 1909 | 28 years with 28-year renewal (Total 56 years) |
| 1976 | The life of the author plus 50 years. For anonymous works, pseudonymous works and work for hire - 75 years from the year of first publication, or a term of 100 years from the year of creation or whichever expires first. |
| 1978 | Copyright protection exists from the time the original work of authorship is fixed in any tangible medium of expression, now or later developed. Copyright in a work created on or after January 1, 1978 exists from its creation and endures for the life of the author plus fifty years after the author's death with no renewals. |
| 1989 | The Berne Act of March 1, 1989 removed the requirement of a copyright notice as a prerequisite of copyright protection. Deposit and registration are still required to file infringement suits. |
| 1998 | The Copyright Term Extension Act, (S. 505), also known as the Sonny Bono Copyright Term Extension Act, extended copyright protection to life of the author plus 70 years. Protection for corporate creators (anonymous works, pseudonymous works, and work for hire) was extended to 95 years from the first year of publication. |
| | The Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA) of October 28, 1998, was implemented. |
| 1999 | The Distance Learning guidelines were proposed. These guidelines apply to performance and transmission of lawfully acquired works for the use of live interactive distance learning classes and faculty instructed recordings. |

Mark Your Calendar

| | |
|---------|--|
| October | Computer Learning Month |
| 1 | Newsline published online |
| 10 | MO Rural Opportunities Council Telecommunications/Education Committee Meeting (1:15-3:30 pm) |

| | |
|------------|--|
| 15 | Governor's Office Building—Room 316, Jefferson City, MO |
| 25 | TLCF Final Expenditure Reports due |
| November 1 | Newsline articles due |
| 14 | Newsline published online |
| | MO Rural Opportunities Council Telecommunications/Education Committee Meeting (1:15-3:30 pm) |
| | Governor's Office Building—Room 316, Jefferson City, MO |



Upcoming 2002 Conferences

| | |
|----------------|---|
| October 6-8 | Missouri Educational Technology Conference Tan-Tar-A, Osage Beach, MO Missouri Research and Education Network Missouri Department of Elementary & Secondary Education |
| October 10 | Breakthrough Technologies for 21 st Century The Roosevelt Hotel, New York City http://www.techlearning.com/events |
| October 10 | TECH FORUM: "Breakthrough Technologies for 21 st Century Schools" The Roosevelt Hotel, NYC http://www.techlearning.com/events/techforum/ |
| October 10 | Bringing the Educational Community Online Rocky Hill, CT http://www.finalsite.com/news_center/seminars/ |
| October 11-13 | 2002 ASCD Conference on Teaching and Learning Standards New Orleans, Louisiana http://www.ascd.org/trainingopportunities.html |
| October 13-15 | Joint Iowa ASCD ITEC Conference Des Moines, IA www.itec-ia.org |
| October 15-16 | Connected Classroom Conference Houston, TX http://profflearn.classroom.com/ProfDev/conferences |
| October 20-22 | Systems Change Conference for School Leaders Ramkota Inn Sioux Falls, SD http://systemschange.midwestmaple.org |
| October 25-27 | Missouri Conference on Public Education Tan-Tar-A, Osage Beach, MO Missouri School Board Association |
| October 28-30 | First Annual Student Achievement and School Accountability Conference Chicago, IL http://www.ed.gov/offices/OESE/SASA/conference.html |
| November 12-14 | National Summit on Recruiting, Retaining, and Certifying Quality Teachers U.S. Grant Hotel, San Diego, CA www.performancweb.org |
| November 15-17 | NSBA'S Technology + Learning Conference 2002 Dallas, TX http://www.nsba.org/T+L |
| January 27-29 | Midwest Education & Teaching Conference Millennium Hotel, St. Louis Cooperating School Districts |
| February 19-21 | New Technologies in Training and Technical skills Orlando, Florida http://www.salt.org |

| | |
|----------------|---|
| February 26-27 | K-12 School Networking Conference: Achievement, Assessment & Accountability Hyatt Regency Crystal City, Arlington, VA http://www.k12schoolnetworking.com |
| March 4-5 | RCET-SW Conference University Plaza, Springfield, MO |
| March 17-19 | Microcomputers in Education Conference Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona http://mec.asu.edu |
| March 19-20 | MOREnet Spring Technical Conference Tan-Tar-A, Osage Beach, MO |
| March 19-20 | Missouri Research and Education Network HELIX (Higher Education Learning & Information eXchange) Conference Tan-Tar-A, Osage Beach, MO MERC (Missouri Education & Research Consortium) |

From the Mailbag

ExploraVision Awards

www.toshiba.com/tai/exploravision

Toshiba and National Science Teachers Association challenge K-12 students to create a technology of the future. Winners with the most innovative ideas will be awarded a U.S. EE Savings Bond worth \$10,000. Now in its eleventh year the ExploraVision competition invites teams of two, three or four students to use their imagination and the tools of science to envision a future technology and design web pages to express their ideas. Entries must be received by February 4, 2003. For more information visit the website listed above.

Classroom Connect's Internet Educator of the Year Award

<http://proflearn.classroom.com/ProfDev/ieoty.asp>

Classroom Connect has announced the 4th annual Internet Educator of the Year Award. The 2003 Internet Educator of the Year will be an educator who embraces Internet resources and technologies, and successfully integrates them into the classroom. He or she is a teacher first, demonstrating and sharing a love of learning and using the Internet as a tool for learning with those around them -- both students and faculty -- and is an inspiration to everyone who has or is struggling with combining the professional act of teaching with the realities of a completely wired future. Nomination deadline: October 31, 2002.

"ASCD Outstanding Young Educator Award"

<http://www.ascd.org/oyea.html>

The ASCD Outstanding Young Educator Award candidate is an education professional, 40 years of age or younger who demonstrates exemplary commitment and exceptional contribution to the profession. Their creative and innovative accomplishments within the classroom, school, district, state, or region has had a significant impact on student performance and achievement over time and provides an ongoing model of excellence in encouraging all learners to succeed. Their body of work consistently proves their leadership among their colleagues. The recipient of the ASCD Outstanding Young Educator Award will be profiled in Educational Leadership, will receive a check in the amount of \$10,000, and will be honored during a general session at the ASCD Annual Conference and Exhibit Show in San Francisco, California. Nomination deadline: December 16, 2002.

National Student Competition

www.RocketContest.org or www.aia-aerospace.org.

Do the students and teachers at your local or former school know about the Team America Rocketry Challenge, the first national model rocket competition for U.S. high school and junior

high school students? Five winning student teams will share a total prize pool of \$59,000. In addition, three of the top ten teams are eligible to win \$2500 grants, including travel expenses, to launch an advanced rocket with NASA, and attend Space Camp. Each of the top 25 teams' schools will be invited to send one teacher on an all expenses paid trip to attend an advanced NASA rocketry workshop, meet with NASA scientists and engineers, and tour the Marshall Space Flight Center.

This event is sponsored by the Aerospace Industries Association and the National Association of Rocketry. Our partners include NASA, the US Air Force and numerous educational organizations.

We challenge you to design, build, and fly a model rocket carrying two raw eggs as close as possible to 1500 feet. The top 100 teams will compete in a fly-off in Northern Virginia in May 2003. The deadline to enter the contest is November 15, 2002. For more information and an application, visit www.RocketContest.org or www.aia-aerospace.org.

Control your Networked Classroom with NetSupport School version 6.0
A Complete Classroom Instruction and Monitoring Software Solution
www.netsupport-inc.com

NetSupport School is a complete software-only solution for providing interactive classroom instruction and monitoring. With NetSupport School, teachers can demonstrate applications in real time, show their screen to students' screens, monitor student progress, nominate group leaders, send out and collect coursework, annotate the screen, perform online chat and much more. NetSupport School puts teachers & corporate trainers center stage in networked classrooms or Internet-based virtual classrooms allowing full control of classroom technology at all times. For a free trial download, visit: www.netsupport-inc.com or call 1.888.665.0808. Educational discounts available.

Special Notice to State Departments of Education from NetDay CEO Julie Evans
http://www.netday.org/netday_index.htm

NetDay, a national education technology organization, would like to invite superintendents in your state to share their opinions about the value and impact of technology use in education. As part of the **NetDay Index Leadership Network**, school superintendents will be asked to participate in a short monthly survey about the return on investment of technology within their school district. From their input, NetDay will identify some of the macro trends in educational technology that are impacting students.

NetDay is especially interested in hearing from superintendents in your state. Their experiences and insights will help to insure that this national assessment tool is a valuable resource for education leaders all across the country.

There are several additional benefits for the superintendents who sign up for the NetDay Index initiative. They will have access to our benchmarking data, opportunities to participate in a national public relations campaign and special "early bird" access to survey analysis of national and regional trends in education technology. We are currently lining up partnerships with key media sources as well as leading higher education institutions for promotion and analysis of the data.

Superintendents can register to participate by either of these two methods:

- **online at http://www.netday.org/netday_index_signup.asp
- ** by faxing the completed attached form to 949.609.4665

Starting in September, all participants will receive a short survey by email or fax that will take less than 5 minutes to complete. The aggregated survey results will be reported monthly, quarterly and annually, and will be supplemented with analysis of emerging trends by NetDay.

Please share this exciting opportunity with superintendents in your state. You can find more information about NetDay Index at http://www.netday.org/netday_index.htm. We appreciate your participation and look forward to hearing from your state education leaders through NetDay Index!

Engaging Professional Development On Using WebQuest

www.tlstraining.com

Technology Learning Solutions, Inc. (TLS) has an engaging professional development solution for teachers and training coordinators that uses best practices to guide teachers in integrating the Internet into their curriculum. Solution One: Internet Integration is self-paced CD-ROM training for teachers blended with facilitation and support from your training coordinator. This project-based training guides teachers in effective use of the WebQuest technique to integrate the Internet into subjects like English Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies.

For teachers, the CD allows them to take the training when it is convenient, anytime, anyplace, and at any pace. The edutainment format includes audio and interactivity to keep teachers engaged. For training coordinators, the Implementation Guide addresses how they can support teachers and create the essential conditions for success as teachers work through the CD.

For more information on this sustained professional development solution, visit our Web site at www.tlstraining.com or contact Dub Ashner at TLS (800-434-8572 or duba@tlstraining.com) or Ron Kronenberger at EduTec Resources, Inc. (888-888-9380 or rkronenberger@edutec-resources.com).

CSD TeacherFirst Update

Special Education

Students with special needs are a challenge to both specialists and regular classroom teachers as well. Their highly individualized needs often require that teachers find new ways to teach familiar material. TeachersFirst's special education section, E-Ready, is a coordinated resource for classroom teachers, special education teachers, and parents. Developed with support from the NEC Foundation, it's a collection of general guidelines and disability-specific tips to help both special ed students and teachers

succeed. Our focus is on teaching, not the law. You can find the E-Ready resources at: <http://www.teachersfirst.com/sped/> and the parents section – The Exceptional Child – is available on TeachersAndFamilies at:

<http://www.teachersandfamilies.com/sped/parents/index.html>

Hot Topics

<http://www.teachersfirst.com/hot.htm>

Looking for a lesson, web site, or activity that ties to current events or issues? Try TeachersFirst's Hot Topics! It's our regularly updated collection of timely resources on current events and new education trends. Since the hurricane season has suddenly become active, this week we've added our hurricane tracking resources. Try the Hot Topics each week for something new that just doesn't "fit in" anywhere else.

Technology Resources

<http://www.teachersfirst.com/techtopics.htm>

Teaching with technology can be great, but it requires preparation and confidence. TeachersFirst's Tech Topics can help you with both. It's a collection of great resources to help you use technology effectively, along with a collection of resources on copyright and technology. There's even a daily technology tip. You'll find our tech topics on the TeachersFirst Content Matrix, and also at: <http://www.teachersfirst.com/techtopics.htm>

Mindstretchers

Every classroom has a few students who need an extra challenge from time to time. That's why we created Mindstretchers – a collection of puzzles, games, and thinking activities that help strengthen higher-order thinking skills. These activities cover all subjects, and they include

resources for both individual and group use. This is a great TeachersFirst section to suggest to parents whose students “always want more.” The Mindstretchers are available from the TeachersFirst Content Matrix:

<http://www.teachersfirst.com/matrix.htm> .

Bus Basics

<http://www.teachersandfamilies.com/open/parent/busbasics.cfm>

Teaching students to be safe on and around school buses is everyone’s responsibility. Parents and teachers alike can benefit from our article, “Bus Basics” in the TeachersAndFamilies parenting section. There are lots of suggestions to help students remember safety basics when riding the Big Yellow Bus.

Featured Sites

<http://www.teachersfirst.com/feature.htm>

Featured Sites include a wonderful interactive music site, a French tutoring site that talks back, and lots more.

Keeping Parents In The Loop

http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/education/134528700_organizer04e.html

The Lake Washington School District is benefiting from a service created by a frustrated parent. Tired of trying to keep track of all the announcements her children brought home, Kathryn Skinner started ParentOrganizer to help streamline communication between parents, schools and community groups.

Source: The Seattle Times

http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/education/134528700_organizer04e.html

School Consider Making Cell Phones Legal

<http://www.nytimes.com/2002/08/15/technology/circuits/15SCHO.html?pagewanted=print&position=bottom>

More than 20 states ban cell phones in schools under laws that limit the use of pagers and other electronic communication devices. But recently, parents and students have been pressuring lawmakers to overturn such bans, citing the need to stay in touch with one another.

Source: The New York Times

Multimedia Driver Training

http://story.news.yahoo.com/news?tmpl=story&u=/hsn/20020830/hl_hsn/teen_computer_program_is_no_game

Vermont has become the first state to use a new multimedia approach to educating teenagers about the dangers of impaired driving. Crash Site is an interactive program designed to help high school students develop the attitudes and skills to prevent driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

Source: Yahoo! News

Swimming WithThe Fishes—Virtually

<http://www.wired.com/news/print/0,1294,54723,00.html>

If a planned project turns into a reality, students across the country will be able to see live feeds from the ocean floor. Under the University of Washington project, 1,864 miles of fiber-optic cable, cameras, and recording equipment will be placed 1 to 2 kilometers below the ocean’s surface to monitor marine life and its interaction with the ocean floor and weather.

Source: Wired News



Internet Sites of Interest

Newest eThemes

September 11

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000515.html>

Explore several children's news sites about the Sept. 11 tragedy and America's response. Includes interactive maps, timelines, videos, and a listing of recommended children's books. There is information about the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and Osama Bin Laden. Also includes an animated movie about anthrax. There is a link to an eThemes Resource on Afghanistan, the September 11 anniversary, and coping with terrorism.

September 11: One Year Later

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000767.html>

These sites have lesson plans for activities relating to the September 11 anniversary. There is also a comprehensive list of all the victims of the attacks, plus videos made in memory of police officers and firefighters. Listen to a song written about 9-11, vote on the proposed memorials, read children's poetry, view their artwork, and browse through a list of recommended books for kids. Includes links to eThemes Resources on September 11, Afghanistan, and coping with terrorism.

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000435.html> September 11: Helping Students Cope with Terrorism and Tragedy

These sites offer advice on helping children understand and cope with the Sept. 11 terrorism attack. Also covers how kids are affected by news and the symptoms of stress. Includes a link to an eThemes Resource on September 11.

Country: Afghanistan

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000778.html>

Learn more about the people, history, and culture of Afghanistan. Includes photographs, timelines, and articles about this war-ravaged country. There is also information on the Taliban and Islam. Includes a link to an eThemes Resource on September 11.

Cells: Mitosis

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000759.html>

These sites explain the process of cell division called mitosis. See photos and video of actual cells dividing. Includes animations and diagrams of the process. There are online quizzes and games about mitosis, plus class activities. Includes a link to an eThemes Resource on plant and animal cells.

Writing: Assessment Tools

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000762.html>

These sites include rubrics, scoring guides, and checklists for assessing student writing. Ideas for peer editing and student self-evaluation are included. Several of these assessment tools can be used as they are while others can be constructed online.

Keyboarding Skills: Junior and High School

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000748.html>

These sites have information on keyboarding for junior and high school students. Includes lesson plans, online typing practice programs, and information on ergonomics and the history of typing. There is also a link to an eThemes Resource on keyboarding skills for elementary students.

Literature: "Because of Winn-Dixie" by Kate DiCamillo

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000746.html>

These sites have discussion questions and activities relating to the book "Because of Winn-Dixie." Read an interview with the author, Kate DiCamillo, plus learn about Florida, which is the setting for the book. A main character is a dog, so there are sites on selecting a dog breed, how

to calculate your dog's age, plus online dog games. Includes recipes for egg-salad sandwiches and horehound candy.

Literature: "The Good Earth" by Pearl S. Buck

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000725.html>

Learn about this Pulitzer Prize winning book. There are chapter summaries, discussion questions, online quizzes, character analyses, and lesson plans. Also read about author Pearl S. Buck, a Nobel Prize winner. Take a photographic tour of her life.

Literature: "As I Lay Dying" by William Faulkner

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000734.html>

These sites are about Nobel Prize winner William Faulkner and one of his novels, "As I Lay Dying." Includes plot summaries, discussion questions, online quizzes, character analyses, and classroom activity ideas. Take a virtual tour of Faulkner's home, Rowan Oak. There is also a link to an eThemes Resource on the 1930s.

Literature: "Judy Moody" by Megan McDonald

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000774.html>

These sites are about the book "Judy Moody" by Megan McDonald. There are hands-on activities and biographies on the author. View the top student artwork from a collage contest inspired by the book. eThemes Resources on book activities and back-to-school activities are included.

Literature: "I Know What You Did Last Summer" by Lois Duncan

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000768.html>

These sites are about the book "I Know What You Did Last Summer." Includes interviews and biographies on author Lois Duncan. There is also information about mysteries and horror stories along with some suggested classroom activities. Includes an eThemes Resource on peer pressure.

Literature: "Animal Farm" By George Orwell

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000765.html>

These sites are about the book "Animal Farm" written by George Orwell. Includes historical background information about the book, biographies of the author, and discussion questions. Includes information about symbolism and propaganda. Read the entire novel online, browse through suggested classroom activities, or try the online quizzes.

Literature: "The Diary of Anne Frank"

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000749.html>

These sites focus on Anne Frank and her famous diary. Learn more about her life story, her family, friends, and the secret annex where she hid during World War II. There are also many historic photos, online quizzes, lesson plans, and suggested activities. Includes a link to an eThemes Resource on the Holocaust.

Literature: "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe" by C.S. Lewis

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000775.html>

These sites are about the book "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe" from the Chronicles of Narnia series by C.S. Lewis. Learn about the make-believe world called Narnia and its creatures. There are also biographies on the author and lesson plans with suggested class activities. An eThemes Resource on writing fiction is included.

Literature: "The Hundred Dresses" by Eleanor Estes

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000779.html>

These sites are about "The Hundred Dresses" by Eleanor Estes. Includes many lesson plans and activity ideas, plus information about the author. Test your knowledge with the online quizzes and games.

Literature: "The Wizard of Oz" by L. Frank Baum

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000776.html>

These sites are about the book "The Wizard of Oz" and the 1939 movie by MGM. Includes information on author L. Frank Baum, literature guides, lesson plans, vocabulary words, and discussion questions. Read the entire book online, download the movie script, and listen to audio files from the movie. Play an online Jeopardy game about the book.

Agriculture: History of Farming

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000761.html>

These sites are about the history of farming and agriculture. Includes information about farms and ranches in the U.S. Learn about tools and techniques used in the past.

Transportation: Transcontinental Railroad

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000752.html>

Learn about the history, construction, and impact of the first transcontinental railroad in the United States. Includes historic photographs, maps, and suggested classroom activities. There is a link to an eThemes Resource on trains.

Animals: Bobcats

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000760.html>

Learn about the bobcat and its habitat, eating habits, physical characteristics, and more. Includes coloring pages, photographs, and fact sheets. Find out which U.S. president had a bobcat as a pet. There are also links to eThemes Resources on animal tracks and food chains.

Central America

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000756.html>

These sites for high-school students are about the countries in Central America and feature several maps. Includes information about the political instability of several of the nations. Learn about the building of the Panama Canal and its return to Panama. Includes information on guerilla warfare and the history behind it.

Industrial Revolution

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000769.html>

Learn about the advances made during the Industrial Revolution. Read about some of the inventions that made life easier for workers. Includes some biographies on inventors. There are lesson plans, clip art, and interactive quizzes.

Pirates

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000777.html>

Learn about famous pirates from the past and sunken pirate ships that have been recovered. Includes lesson plans, craft activities, videos, interactive stories, riddles, coloring pages, and online games.

Math: Money

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000781.html>

These sites help students learn about the value of coins and bills and how to identify them. There are several class activity ideas and online games, including making change and figuring the total change. Includes links to related eThemes Resources on money.

Math: Money Facts

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000782.html>

These sites focus on money. Includes the history of money around the world and in the U.S. See photos of the earliest U.S. coins and bills, read how money is made, and learn about the 50 state quarters program. There are links to related eThemes Resources on money.

Shakers

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000770.html>

Learn about the religious group called the Shakers who came from England to the U.S. in the late 1700s. View many photographs of former Shaker villages that reveal clues about their daily life. Includes historical and biographical information about this religious group and its members. There are also images of furniture and crafts made by Shakers.

Updated and Revised

Physics: Light

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000450.html>

These sites are about visible light and the color spectrum. Learn the basic concepts of color theory including the color wheel, additive and subtractive colors, reflection, and refraction. Try the online color blindness test. There is also information about the speed of light and how the eye works. Many sites include interactive activities that are fun for the SMARTboard.

Physics: Sound

<http://emints.more.net/ethemes/resources/S00000332.html>

These sites explain sound waves and how the ear hears sounds. Includes information on sonic booms and decibels. Listen to a variety of sounds, play a virtual piano, watch movies about sound, or try several hands-on experiments. Includes a link to an eThemes Resource on radio waves.

Rebuilding the Towers

<http://teacher.scholastic.com/scholasticnews/indepth/911/game/game.htm>

This site allows student to make some decisions on the rebuilding of the towers.

Math

Having good math-related sites handy can offer students and parents additional places to go for extra practice and online help. Some sites to help in this effort:

Math.com

<http://www.math.com>

Math Goodies

<http://www.mathgoodies.com>

Figure This! Math Challenges for Educators & Families

<http://www.figurethis.org>

The Math Forum

<http://mathforum.org>

Citation & Plagiarism

Plagiarism & the Web

<http://www.wiu.edu/users/mfbhl/wiu/plagiarism.htm>

Cheating 101: Detecting Plagiarized Papers

<http://www.coastal.edu/library/plagiarz.htm>

APA (American Psychological Association) Citation

<http://www.apastyle.org/electref.html>

MLA (Modern Language Association) style: paper & electronic

<http://www.nhmccd.edu/contracts/lrc/kc/mlastyle.htm>

easybib.com

<http://www.easybib.com>

10 Great Ways to Get a Grant

<http://www.scholastic.com/administrator/backtoschool/features.asp?article=granttips>

Grant Resources on the Web

Funding for Technology

www.mcrel.org/connect/tech/funding.html

Helpful information on grant writing tools and funding sources.

Pitsco's Launch to Grants

www.pitsco.com/resources/resframe.htm

Links to more than 100 government, education, and foundation sites with information about grants.

Corning Inc. Foundation

www.corning.com/inside_corning/foundation.asp

Supports educational programs that promote instructional technology.

Federal Funding For EdTech

www.ed.gov/Technology/tec-guid.html

Information about available federal funds for schools.

The Dirksen Congressional Center: Robert H. Michel Civic Education Grant

www.dirksencenter.org/grantmichelciviced.htm

Up to \$50,000 for civic, legislative, or government-related projects that incorporate practical technology applications in the classroom.

Grant is available for grades 4-12.

The Enterasys Foundation

www.enterasys.com/foundation

Strives to bridge the digital divide between community and the IT industry. The Foundation provides hardware, software, and training to communities without access or funding to utilize modern technology.

AT&T Emerging Tech Awards

http://securebb.att.com/services/other/Emerging_Technology_Awards.pdf

Teams of teachers who propose innovative projects using cable TV programming and/or the Internet in the classroom will receive cash grants and digital video cameras.

Computers for Learning

www.computers.fed.gov/School/user.asp

Donates surplus federal government computer equipment to needy schools.

Handspring Foundation

www.handspring.com/company/foundation/cashgrants.jhtml

Awards cash grants to programs in PreK-12 institutions that focus on technology use, particularly for at-risk children from underserved communities.

American Honda Foundation

www.hondacorporate.com/community/index.html?subsection=foundation

Awards grants of \$10,000 to \$75,000 for projects focused on math, science, the environment, and technology.

National Telecommunications Partnership Award

www.partnersineducation.org

Awards cash prizes to programs that demonstrate how partnerships help fully integrate telecommunications technology into the classroom.

IBM: Reinventing Education

www.ibm.com/ibm/ibmgives/grant/education/

Supports long-term investment in educational technologies to facilitate innovative and enriching curriculum, teacher training, student assessment, and data analysis.

International Technology Education Association

www.iteawww.org

Awards a variety of grants of \$1,000 or \$2,000 for demonstrated need for technology resources.

The Learning Space: Digital Blackboard Partnerships Grants

www.learningspace.org/digitalblackboard/more_details.htm

Provides a one-time donation to encourage the use of technology in the classroom with additional Learning Space resources and networks.

Micron Foundation

www.micron.com/content.jsp?path=/About+Micron/Micron+Giving/

Awards educational grants in communities where Micron has manufacturing facilities.

Wireless Foundation

www.wirelessfoundation.org/03class/index.htm

Donates wireless phones and airtime to schools.

NSBA: Funding for Technology

www.nsba.org/sbot/toolkit/Funding.html

Provides innovative ways to fund technology initiatives in school districts, and has links to numerous grants and funding programs.

Oracle Corporate Giving Program

www.oracle.com/corporate/giving/community/index.html

Supports nonprofit organizations in the communities in which the Oracle Corp. operates. Grants are also made to selected national organizations and K-12 math, science, and technology education programs.

Oracle's Help Us Help Foundation

www.helpushelp.org/pages/grant_index.html

Provides grants for computer equipment and software to schools in low-income communities.

SMART Technologies, Inc: Smarter Kids Foundation

www.smarterkids.org

Awards numerous grants for professional development or student research, and free or reduced-price company products.

www.smarterkids.org

BellSouth Foundation: Opportunity Grants

www.bellsouthfoundation.org/grants/og/whatisog.html

Awards grants to school districts that focus on education reform to impact a substantial number of students.

Sun Microsystems Academic Equipment Grant Program

www.sun.com/products-n-solutions/edu/grants/

Donates hardware to K-12 schools that have developed creative projects.

Toshiba America Foundation: Small Grants Program

www.toshiba.com/taf

Awards up to \$5,000 to programs and activities that improve the classroom teaching of mathematics, science, and technology for middle and high school students.

U.S. Commerce Dept.: Technology Opportunities Program

www.ntia.doc.gov/otiahome/top/grants/grants.htm

Awards grants for model projects demonstrating innovative uses of network technology.

U.S. Dept. of Ed.: Technology Innovation Challenge Grant

www.ed.gov/Technology/challenge

Provides competitive five-year awards to consortia that include at least one local educational agency with a high number of children living in poverty.

Computers 4 Kids

www.c4k.org

Distributes Internet-ready computers to homes, schools and nonprofit organizations. Also helps train students on the technology.

Innovation Grant

www.nfie.org

Awards grants to two or more K-12 teachers who collaborate to develop and implement innovative ideas that result in high student achievement.

National Science Foundation

www.nsf.gov/cgi-bin/getpub?nsf01130

Offers one- to three-year grants to programs that broaden the participation of girls in all fields of science, math, engineering and technology.

Texas Instruments Foundation

www.ti.com/corp/docs/company/citizen/foundation

Funds varied projects that support technology and engineering studies.

Verizon Foundation

<http://foundation.verizon.com>

Offers in-kind gifts, volunteers, and cash grants to qualified nonprofits, including K-12 schools.

William and Flora Hewlett Foundation

www.hewlett.org/guidelines/education/education_top_frm.htm

Supports projects that illustrate the effective use technology to provide all students with high quality content and instruction, within classrooms and through distance learning.

NEC Foundation of America

www.necus.com/company/foundation

Provides grant support for programs that promote science and technology.

3M Salute to Schools Program

www.ala.org/aasl/news/3msalute2002.html

Awards 3M detection systems for the entrances of school libraries and 3M security strips for library books.

Alan Shepard Technology in Education Award

www.naets.org/national_award.htm

Honors educators' outstanding contributions to technology education. Candidates must be nominated by a principal or a superintendent.